

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-6, 8-9, 11-14, 16, 18-23, 25-26, and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by United States Patent Number 6,498,038 to Berkowitz et al. (hereinafter “Berkowitz”) in view of United States Patent Application Publication Number 2004/0254964 by Kodama et al. (hereinafter “Kodama”) in view of United States Patent 5,875,457 to Shalit et al. (hereinafter Shalit) in further view of United States Patent Number 5,905,988 to Schwartz et al. (hereinafter Schwartz).

Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephone interview of December 19, 2007. We discussed a proposed amendment. The Examiner suggested corrections that the Applicants agreed to implement. Applicants do so with this response.

Amendments to Claims

Applicants have amended claim 1 with the limitation “...the auto-select target indicator indicates whether the target volume for a plurality of fast replication operations is to be automatically selected or manually specified via the target volume indicator and a target extents indicator...” The amendment is fully supported by the specification. See page 14, lines 10-12. In addition, claim 1 is amended with the limitation “...the partial volume indicator configured to indicate whether either an entire volume or a partial volume is to be snapshot...” The amendment is well supported by the specification. See page 14, lines 3-5.

Applicants have further amended claim 1 with the limitation “...the source extents indicator configured to indicate starting and ending indices of tracks to be snapshot...” See page

14, lines 5-7. Claims 6, 13, 16, 23, and 26 are similarly amended.

Response to rejections of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 4-6, 8-9, 11-14, 16, 18-23, 25-26, and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Berkowitz in view of Kodama in view of Shalit in further view of Schwartz. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Applicants have amended claims 1, 6, 13, 16, 23 and 26 to include the limitation “...the auto-select target indicator indicates whether the target volume for a plurality of fast replication operations is to be automatically selected or manually specified via the target volume indicator and a target extents indicator...” See claim 1. In contrast, Kodama discloses virtual volumes managed automatically or selectively, such as by user selection. Kodama, ¶ 83. Berkowitz, Shalit, and Schwartz also do not teach an auto-select target indicator that indicates whether the target volume for a fast replication operation is to be automatically selected or manually specified via the target volume indicator and the target extents indicator. Applicants therefore submit that claims 1, 6, 13, 16, 23 and 26 are allowable.

Claims 1, 6, 13, 16, 23 and 26 are also amended with the limitation “...the partial volume indicator configured to indicate whether either an entire volume or a partial volume is to be snapshot...” See claim 1. In contrast, Berkowitz, Kodama, Shalit, and Schwartz do not teach the limitation. Applicants therefore submit that claims 1, 6, 13, 16, 23 and 26 are allowable.

Applicants have further amended claims 1, 6, 13, 16, 23 and 26 with the limitation “...the source extents indicator configured to indicate starting and ending indices of tracks to be

snapshot...” See claim 1. Berkowitz, Kodama, Shalit, and Schwartz do not teach the source extents indicator configured to indicate starting and ending indices of tracks to be snapshot.

Applicants therefore submit that claims 1, 6, 13, 16, 23 and 26 are allowable.

Claims 1, 6, 13, 16, 23 and 26 include the limitation “...the background copy indicator configured to indicate whether data transfers for a plurality of fast replications operations are conducted as a background operation...” See claim 1. The Examiner cites Schwartz as teaching the background indicator. Applicants respectfully disagree. Schwartz discloses selecting a background or foreground operation of information search and retrieval functions. Schwartz, col. 16, lines 54-63. Schwartz does not teach indicating whether data transfers for a plurality of fast replications operations are conducted as a background operation. Berkowitz, Shalit, and Kodama also do not teach the limitation. Applicants therefore submit that claims 1, 6, 13, 16, 23 and 26 are allowable.

Claims 1, 6, 13, 16, 23 and 26 further include the limitation “...the redundancy level indicator configured to select a redundancy in the range of no redundancy to a RAID level 50 redundancy...” See claim 1. Applicants respectfully disagree that Shalit teaches a redundancy level indicator configured to select a redundancy in the range of no redundancy to a RAID level 50 redundancy. Applicants respectfully disagree. Shalit teaches a RAID storage controller that is configurable to provide user selectable redundancy for data with redundancies including RAID 0, RAID 1, RAID 3, RAID 5, and RAID 6 redundancies. Shalit, col. 2, lines 45-49. However, Shalit does not teach snapshot criteria stored in a metadata buffer comprising a redundancy level indicator that selects a redundancy in the range of no redundancy to a RAID level 50 redundancy.

Applicants therefore submit that claims 1, 6, 13, 16, 23 and 26 are allowable. Applicants further submit that claims 4-5, 8-9, 11-12, 14, 18-22, 25, and 28 are allowable as depending from allowable claims.

Conclusion

As a result of the preceding amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for prompt allowance. If any impediments to the prompt allowance of the claims can be resolved by a telephone conversation, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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